



Governor's Advisory Council to the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Chapel – Herman M. Holloway, Sr. Campus

September 21, 2017 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Jack Akester, Patricia Ayers, Patricia Hill, Devon Manning, Jim Martin, and Susan Phillips

Members Excused: Robert Daniels, Andrea Guest, and George Meldrum

Members Absent: Helena Carter, Thomas Hall, Janice Jolly, and Joanna Rieger

Associate Members Present: Lynn Fahey, James Larks, Brice Lorenz, John McKenna, and Charles Sygowski

Associate Members Excused:

Associate Members Absent: Florence Alberque, Lisa Furber, Dan Hoeftman, and Edie McCole

Interested Parties Present: Elizabeth Booth, Bryce Hewitt, Patricia Maichle, William Mason, Greg Valentine, Emily Vera, Norman Vetter, Clarence Watson, Holly Dixon, Nakia Trader, Erin Goldner, Karen Vied, and Frank Calvosa

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order/Introductions	Chairman Jim Martin called the meeting to order at 9:00am and welcomed everyone in attendance. Meeting participants were invited to introduce themselves and share their affiliation.	
Review and Approval of Minutes		July's minutes were not approved due to lack of a quorum.
Chairman's Report	Chairman Jim Martin stated the GAC needed a meeting in Dover. It was decided a Dover meeting would take place next year. Chairman Martin introduced Frank C. a peer at ACE center and a member of Oxford House. Frank spoke on his life's journey with addiction. He told of his experiences that led him to become a peer. Frank described Oxford House as a self-run and	

	<p>self-supported recovery house. It has over 2200 locations and there are 17,500 beds filled at this time. He explained that everyone living in the house must attend meetings and have chores. The members treat each other like family. They can be fined for not doing their chores and evicted if they are found to be using. Not going to meetings gets you put on probation. Oxford House is community oriented and let their neighbors know they are recovering addicts but will be good neighbors. According to Frank, the “tool box” for a successful recovery is to have a counselor and sponsor coach. Recovering coaching is similar to family support or a person to talk to in time of need. Frank states it would be beneficial to have peers assist in hospital emergency room in a non-clinical position. He thinks having employment helps a person to stay on track which helps to prevent relapse.</p> <p>Chairman Martin introduced Karen V. who presented a PowerPoint on recovery. She spoke of her own personal experiences with some family members which led her to become a recovery coach. She presented the history related to the profession.</p>	
Director’s Report	<p>Acting Director Dr. Clay Watson reported the major focus for DSAMH is dealing with the opioid crises. There have been three targeted areas identified to combat this epidemic. First, there is engagement by raising the awareness through the Helpsherede.com website and making more user friendly. Next, diagnosis is important because you may be able to help someone before their issues become full blown problems. The last element is treatment by a physician. A physician could also help with prevention by asking the appropriate questions by medical</p>	

	<p>screening during a routine visit for substance abuse disorder. DSAMH is focused on oversight of providers to maintain quality of care. There needs to be a focus on co-occurring disorders in addition to mental health.</p> <p>DSAMH is working with Public Health on prevention of addiction. There is an increased effort to engage youth before a problem arises. Dr. Watson states social media would be a good tool to use in the education of addiction. Another effort is to enlighten physicians who prescribe opioids to do so responsibly by monitoring refills.</p>	
Standing Committee Reports:		
DPC Advisory Committee	Norm Vetter reported DPC Advisory Committee met on September 13, 2017 and discussed being reviewed by CMS in May. DPC received the findings in July and they were all standard level findings. DPC focused on corrective action related to contraband and environmental concerns. DPC is working on the reduction of overtime and reducing client aggression.	
Children's Committee	No report given due to the absence of committee representation.	
Employment Committee	No report given due to the absence of committee representation.	
Membership Committee	No report given due to the absence of committee representation.	
Community Services Committee	No report given due to the absence of committee representation.	
Budget Committee	James Lark reported on DSAMH budget financial issues including staffing.	
Old Business	None	

New Business	Susan Phillips reported there will be “Shining Light Into Darkness” candle light service on October 1, 2017 in Rehoboth Beach DE. It is sponsored by NAMI. There will also be a “Celebration 2017” event on October 4, 2017 proceeds to benefit several organizations. It will be in Rehoboth Beach, DE.	
Public Comment	None	
Meeting Adjourned	A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 10:50a.m.	The committee approved the adjournment.